

## News Release

# Thirteen Graduate from the U of M Crookston at Commencement Exercises at Polaris Industries in Roseau, Minn.

By Jennifer Severinson, Elizabeth Tollefson on Tuesday, May 8, 2007

CROOKSTON, Minn. (May 8, 2007) – Commencement exercises took place at Polaris Industries, Inc., in Roseau, Minn., on Thursday, May 3, at 2 p.m., as the result of a unique educational partnership. A collaborative effort among the University of Minnesota Crookston (UMC), Northland Community and Technical College (NCTC), Thief River Falls, Minn., and Polaris, its employees are able to pursue an associate or bachelor’s degree onsite.



“Polaris Industries, Inc., and UMC are committed to enhancing the learning opportunities for the employees of Polaris through a customized offering of the bachelor of manufacturing management degree which will result in demonstrated, increased knowledge and workforce advancement for Polaris employees,” said Jennifer Severinson, who works closely with the program through the Center for Adult Learning at UMC. “Working together provides a real benefit for Polaris employees by giving them the opportunity to advance their knowledge and earn a degree from the University of Minnesota.”



The thirteen graduates receiving degrees from UMC included: Greg Anderson, Mike Bodell, Penny Erickson, Jason Dobmeier, Dale Johnson, Maureen Langaas, Wonda Osborne, Steve Pavek, Marie Reid, Deb Rinde, Jeff Tureson, Tammy Wahl and Bonnie Zimmerman. Faculty members travel to Roseau each week to teach the lecture/lab courses.

Speaking on behalf of the graduating class was Marie Reid, a material planner/scheduler at the Polaris Injection Molding Facility in Roseau. She has worked at Polaris since 1996 and worked at the Injection Molding Plant since 2003.

“For me graduating was such a bittersweet moment,” Reid said. “There was so much joy at reaching the end of our journey and receiving the degree but also sadness that I would no longer have the honor of being taught by the amazing professors at UMC, and I will truly miss all of them.”

For more information contact Jennifer Severinson in the UMC Center for Adult Learning at 218-281-8681 ([seve0169@umn.edu](mailto:seve0169@umn.edu)).

The University of Minnesota Crookston (UMC) delivers more than 25 applied-science undergraduate degree programs and 50 concentrations, including online degrees, in agriculture; arts, humanities and social sciences; business; math, science and technology; and natural resources. UMC is dedicated to helping students and the region aim higher, reach further and dream bigger dreams. To learn more, visit [www.UMCrookston.edu](http://www.UMCrookston.edu).

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